

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 02886 190741Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05
USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10
/126 W

-----110746 190824Z /20

R 190650Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5646
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 2886

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TZ
SUBJ: NATURAL GAS IN TANZANIA

1. ACCORDING LOCAL MEDIA OF JULY 17, MINISTER FOR WATER ENERGY AND MINERALS ANNOUNCED TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THAT TANZANIA HAS THIRTY BILLION CUBIC LITRES OF NATURAL GAS AT SONGO SONGO, AN ISLAND THIRTY-TWO KILOMETERS OFF THE SOUTHERN COAST. NATURAL GAS DEPOSIT WAS DISCOVERED IN 1974 AND TESTS HAVE NOW PROVED COMMERCIAL QUANTIES.

2. THE MINISTER REPORTED THAT 82 PER CENT OF THE GAS IDENTIFIED COULD BE RECOVERED FOR COMMERCIAL USE.

NINETY POINT SEVEN
SEVEN PER CENT OF IT IS METHANE, NINE POINT ZERO SEVEN PER CENT IS ETHANE AND POINT ONE SIX PER CENT IS PROPANE. ETHANE COMPOUND WOULD BE USED FOR FABRICATION OF PLASTIC PIPES AND DEVELOPMENT OF A NITROGENOUS FERTILISER PLANT WHICH WOULD MAKE AMMONIA
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AND UREA.

3. MINISTER TOLD THE ASSEMBLY THAT IT WOULD BE SOME YEARS BEFORE TANZANIA COULD REAP ANY BENEFITS FROM THE DEPOSIT AND EVEN THEN THEY WOULD BE MODEST.

4. THE WORK OF PROVING THE GAS FIELD WAS A JOINT EFFORT

INVOLVING THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA THROUGH THE OIL AND NATURAL GAS COMMISSION OF INDIA, THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY THROUGH NORAD. THE EVALUATION OF DATA WAS BY NORWEGIAN PETROLEUM DIRECTORATE.

5. SWAHILI DAILY UHURU OF JULY 18, CHARACTERIZED THE GAS DISCOVERY AS MILESTONE IN TANZANIA'S FIGHT FOR ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. IT SAID THE GAS WILL BE AS IMPORTANT TO TANZANIA AS PETROLEUM IS TO OPEC MEMBERS.

SPAIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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